

# Wabash Plain Dealer

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WEEKEND EDITION APRIL 25-26, 2020

Tomorrow's weather

54 | 39



## Attention, Class of 2020

The Wabash Plain Dealer is launching an interactive campaign to celebrate our Wabash County seniors! With COVID-19 disrupting graduation plans and daily life for our students, we want to do something special to commemorate their hard work and memories. We are posting photo challenges at [www.facebook.com/wabashpd](http://www.facebook.com/wabashpd) and the best submissions will be featured on our website and in a special section published at the end of the school year. Submit your favorite memories to [news@wabashplaindealer.com](mailto:news@wabashplaindealer.com) or post your memories and photos to your social media page using the hashtag #WCClassof2020 to participate.

## Notice to readers

To reduce risks to our employees and community, the Wabash Plain Dealer is closed to the public until further notice. Payments may be dropped in the mail slot or called in. For news, call 260-225-4662 or email [news@wabashplaindealer.com](mailto:news@wabashplaindealer.com). For advertising, call 260-225-4947 or email [tcampbell@pmgini.com](mailto:tcampbell@pmgini.com). For circulation and customer support, call 260-563-2131. To bring you the most accurate information about the evolving COVID-19 pandemic, the Wabash Plain Dealer has decided to prioritize news content over sports stories since sporting events are canceled for the time being. The Wabash Plain Dealer is committed to providing the best product to its customers and appreciates the support during this time. Thank you.

## Wabash County under a code yellow travel advisory

The lowest level of local travel advisory, code yellow means that routine travel or activities may be restricted in areas because of a hazardous situation, and individuals should use caution or avoid those areas, according to the Indiana Department of Homeland Security.

## Wabash to host Virtual First Friday event on May 1

Wabash Marketplace will be hosting a Virtual First Friday on May 1 on Facebook from 4 to 8 p.m. Businesses will not be open to the public except for carry-out. The community is encouraged to visit the Facebook Event Page titled, "Online Event, First Friday in Wabash 5/1/20" or at the link <https://www.facebook.com/events/336939347269386/>. The event will also be linked from the Facebook Page "First Friday-Wabash, Indiana." For more information, visit [www.wabashmarketplace.org](http://www.wabashmarketplace.org) or call 260-563-0975.

## Manchester U. accepting campus food pantry donations

The pantry serves 20 to 25 students a week. Donations may be made at <https://www.manchester.edu/>

See PULSE, page A7

## Inside

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# Wabash Plain Dealer offering matching grant ad program

## Businesses can stretch money further with program

### STAFF REPORT

The Wabash Plain Dealer has established a \$150,000 fund to help local businesses get back to full strength by subsidizing their marketing through matching grants.

Area businesses can now apply for a grant to help them recover from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We realize this is a critical time for our business community, and we wanted to subsidize their marketing through this grant," said Linda Kelsay, publisher of the Wabash Plain Dealer.

"As businesses begin to think about opening, even if it's on a limited basis, it's

vital that they communicate with their customers. We want to be a resource for them to do that."

The fund is open to all locally owned and operated businesses impacted by the coronavirus, whether or not they are current advertisers.

Grant money can be used for local Wabash Plain Dealer print newspaper and special product advertising, between April 28 and June 30, 2020. Grants are avail-

able for a minimum of \$200 and a maximum of \$5,000 of matching funds each month. For example, if a business is awarded a grant and spends \$200 in advertising, the Wabash Plain Dealer will match with a grant of \$200 additional advertising dollars to equal \$400.

To apply for a dollar-for-dollar matching advertising grant, applications must be submitted at [wabashplaindealer.com](http://wabashplaindealer.com), click

on the "How Do I?" banner and Apply for a "Matching Advertising Grant." The applications and project will go live on Tuesday, April 28.

"A community newspaper is only ever as strong as the community it serves. We know businesses and workers are hurting; we're hurting, too. But if we can pull together as a community we can weather this," Kelsay said.

## A drive-by appreciation



Provided photos

The event was organized by residents and friends who wished to show appreciation for the mayor's leadership during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

## Surprise parade organized in support of Mayor Scott Long

### By ROB BURGESS

Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

The difficult part about gathering people to throw a surprise event is having to keep it secret so the subject doesn't find out ahead of time.

In her original statement to the Plain Dealer on April 16, Bev Vanderpool, assistant to Mayor Scott Long, stated "you can't broadcast this" before announcing a planned a surprise, "Thank You, Mayor" parade for the eve-



ning of Tuesday, April 21. Vanderpool stated the event was being organized by residents and friends

She stated participants would decorate the passenger sides of their vehicles, themselves or whatever else before meeting in Miller's Furniture parking lot. The planned parade route would then take them by the mayor's house, where they planned to honk and yell. She stated they wanted to make sure participants stayed in their vehicles and observed social distancing measures.

In a Thursday statement to the Plain Dealer, Vanderpool stated the event was a success.

"We had a great turnout," she stated.

See PARADE, page A3

## Virtual conversation with Walorski postponed

Grow Wabash County event has been rescheduled for 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 28

### STAFF REPORT

Grow Wabash County's virtual "Conversation with Congresswoman Jackie Walorski" originally scheduled for 11 a.m. Friday has been postponed until 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 28, according to Chelsea Boulrisse, project manager.

Boulrisse stated details about how to access the virtual session will be sent Monday to those who pre-registered.

Boulrisse stated the discussion topics for this session will include:

- Updates on COVID-19 and what they mean for Wabash County.
- Actions taken at the national level to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 on businesses and our community.
- What we can expect in the future from Congress regarding COVID-19.
- Time for questions-and-answers with questions from the virtual audience.



WALORSKI

## Holcomb signs executive order to expedite unemployment appeals

## Paperwork requirements for PPP and EIDL also temporarily waived

### STAFF REPORT

Gov. Eric J. Holcomb signed an executive order Thursday to speed up the review of unemployment insurance claim appeals during the fight against COVID-19, according to Rachel Hoffmeyer, press secretary.

The executive order 20-23

allows the Department of Workforce Development to hire additional staff to review the appeals.

The executive order also waives paperwork requirements to help businesses apply for federal assistance under programs such as the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) and temporarily waives requirements for documents connected to certain alcohol permits.

Additionally, the executive order extends the business personal property tax deadlines to June 15.

## MCS awarded \$20K EPA grant to replace school bus

### Diesel school bus to be swapped with larger vehicle

### By ROB BURGESS

Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

In conjunction with the 50th anniversary of Earth Day on Thursday, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) awarded \$1,015,000 to replace 52 older diesel school buses in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin, according to Joshua Singer, public affairs specialist.

One of the school districts to be awarded such funds was Manchester Community Schools (MCS), which received \$20,000 to replace one school bus.

In response to a Plain Dealer request Thursday, Teresa L. Gremaux, MCS superintendent, referred questions about the grant to Imogene Knight, transportation director.

In response to a Plain Dealer request Friday, Knight stated they applied for this grant in fall 2019.

"I am extremely excited to have gotten word that the MCS Transportation Department has awarded us with this \$20,000 grant," she stated.

Knight stated they are replacing a 2005 Thomas model FS65 bus, which holds 66 passengers, with a C-2 bus, which holds 78 passengers.

"The bus we are replacing must be rendered useless and cannot be traded in," stated Knight. "I have to have a 3-inch hole bored in the engine block and have the chassis frame rails cut in two. It must then be taken to a salvage yard and scrapped. When the new bus is delivered to us this fall, I must give a documented report of the mileage, fuel and usage records to the EPA for three years."

Nationwide, EPA awarded \$11.5 million to replace 580 older diesel school buses, with funds going to 157 school bus fleets in 43 states and Puerto Rico, stated Singer.

All will receive rebates through EPA's Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) funding. The new buses will

See SCHOOL BUS, page A3

# Indiana reports 79 more deaths presumed from coronavirus

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Indiana has had at least 79 people who died with coronavirus infection symptoms but were not tested for the illness, the state health commissioner said Friday.

Those presumed COVID-19 related deaths are in addition to the state’s total of 741 deaths involving confirmed coronavirus infections, Dr. Kristina Box said.

The presumptive deaths involved determinations by

doctors of the person’s infection by use of chest X-rays, scans, information about their symptoms and how their condition deteriorated, Box said.

Details about when the deaths occurred weren’t immediately released. Box said the presumptive deaths wouldn’t be included in the confirmed death toll.

“These deaths give us a better sense of the impact of COVID-19,” Box said.

Gov. Eric Holcomb has talked about easing next week the business and travel restrictions in place under the statewide stay-at-home order if a surge in coronavirus cases doesn’t occur and cut into the capacity of hospitals to care for patients.

The latest state statistics showed 621 COVID-19 patients were in the intensive care units of Indiana hospitals, which had 44 percent of their ICU beds available.

# 3 states ease lockdowns; U.S. COVID-19 toll passes 50,000

By RUSS BYNUM and DAVID CRARY  
Associated Press

SAVANNAH, Ga. — Even as the confirmed U.S. death toll from coronavirus soared past 50,000, Georgia, Oklahoma and Alaska began loosening lockdown orders Tuesday on their pandemic-wounded businesses, despite warnings from health experts that the gradual steps toward normalcy might be happening too soon.

Republican governors in Georgia and Oklahoma allowed salons, spas and barber shops to reopen, while Alaska opened the way for restaurants to resume dine-in service and retail shops and other businesses to open their doors, all with limitations. Some Alaska municipalities chose to maintain stricter rules.

Though limited in scope, and subject to social-distancing restrictions, the reopenings marked a symbolic milestone in the debate raging in the United States — and the world — as to how quickly political leaders should lift economically damaging lockdown orders.

Similar scenarios have been playing worldwide and will

soon proliferate in the U.S. as other governors wrestle with conflicting priorities. Their economies have been battered by weeks of quarantine-fueled job losses and soaring unemployment claims, yet health officials warn that lifting stay-at-home orders now could spark a resurgence of COVID-19.

The coronavirus has killed more than 190,000 people worldwide, including — as of Friday — more than 50,000 in the United States, according to a tally compiled by John Hopkins University from government figures. The actual death toll is believed to be far higher.

New cases are surging in Africa and Latin America as outbreaks subside in some places that were hit earlier.

In Oklahoma, Gov. Kevin Stitt authorized personal-care businesses to open, citing a decline in the number of people being hospitalized for COVID-19. Those businesses were directed to maintain social distancing, require masks and frequently sanitize equipment. Still, some of the state’s largest cities, including Norman, Oklahoma City and Tulsa, were opting to keep their bans in place until

at least the end of April.






With deaths and infections still rising in Georgia, many business owners planned to stay closed despite Gov. Brian Kemp’s assurance that hospital visits and new cases have leveled off enough for barbers, tattoo artists, massage therapists and personal trainers to return to work with restrictions.

Kemp’s timeline to restart the economy proved too ambitious even for President Donald Trump, who said he disagrees with the fellow Republican’s plan.

On Friday, Trump signed a \$484 billion bill to aid employers and hospitals under stress from the pandemic — the latest federal effort to help keep afloat businesses that have had to close or scale down. Over the past five weeks, roughly 26 million people have filed for jobless aid, or about 1 in 6 U.S. workers.





Without a tried-and-tested action plan for how to pull countries out of coronavirus lockdown, the world is seeing a patchwork of approaches. Schools reopen in one country, stay closed in others; face masks are mandatory in some places, a recommendation elsewhere.

### 5-Day Weather Summary

 <b>Saturday</b> Showers Likely 58 / 43	 <b>Sunday</b> Few Showers 54 / 39	 <b>Monday</b> Partly Cloudy 59 / 50	 <b>Tuesday</b> Few Showers 64 / 55	 <b>Wednesday</b> Showers Likely 59 / 47
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### Sun and Moon

Today's sunset ..... 8:38 p.m.  
Tomorrow's sunrise ..... 6:52 a.m.

 First 4/30	 Full 5/7	 Last 5/14	 New 5/22
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### Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see cloudy skies with a 75% chance of showers, high temperature of 58°, humidity of 74%. East northeast wind 8 to 14 mph. Expect cloudy skies tonight with an 80% chance of showers, overnight low of 43°. North wind 13 to 16 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 38°.

# Son calls mother by her first name

**DEAR HARRIETTE:** My son is 6 years old, and he recently started calling me by my first name. I am old-fashioned: I want him to call me Mommy. It’s like one day he woke up and realized my name isn’t actually “Mommy,” and he went around the house chanting it. The more I protest, the more he says my name. What should I do?

I want to teach him to have good manners. When I was growing up, I would have gotten a spanking for calling my mother by her first name. I am not sure how to handle this. — A Name

**Harriette Cole**  
Sense & Sensitivity



never have such a scare, but it is wise to tell your children that in time of need, call out your real name.

**DEAR HARRIETTE:** My friend, “Jeff,” was recently diagnosed with diabetes. He is single and apparently has not been taking good care of himself. Some other friends and I agreed that we are going to help him get healthy by taking turns making food for him. We all live nearby. I wish we could also teach him how to cook, but now that we have social distancing, it seems like an impossible task. What do you recommend? — Healthy Tips

**DEAR HEALTHY TIPS:** It’s wonderful that you and your friends are prepared to help Jeff get healthy. It will mean a lot to him, at least during these

early days of learning to eat differently, if others are providing him with food. But you are right: In order to maintain a healthy lifestyle, he needs to learn to do it for himself.

Consider teaching him to cook with Zoom classes. You can be in your kitchen, and he can be in his. You can read the ingredients with him and go step-by-step through the recipes. You can make dishes together, virtually, while maintaining a healthy distance. The bonus is that it should be fun!

*Harriette Cole is a lifestyleist and founder of DREAMLEAPERS, an initiative to help people access and activate their dreams. You can send questions to askharriette@harriettecole.com or c/o Andrews McMeel Syndication, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO 64106.*

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### READERS' CHOICE REPORTS

#### THURSDAY'S LOTTERIES

**Cash 5**  
06-17-27-36-38  
Estimated jackpot: \$110,001

**Cash4Life**  
15-22-32-35-56, Cash Ball: 3  
**Daily Three-Midday**  
9-1-0, SB: 3  
**Daily Three-Evening**  
5-0-0, SB: 1  
**Daily Four-Midday**  
7-4-6-9, SB: 3  
**Daily Four-Evening**  
0-0-5-9, SB: 1  
**Mega Millions**  
Estimated jackpot: \$174 million  
**Powerball**  
Estimated jackpot: \$37 million

#### FRIDAY'S METALS

Aluminum.....	.66
Copper.....	2.28
Lead.....	.74
Zinc.....	.86
Gold.....	1,734.75
Silver.....	15.35
Platinum.....	765.95

#### AREA GRAIN

Estimated grain prices Friday at Indianapolis-area elevators: Corn: \$3.05. Soybeans: \$8.31.



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# Wabash Plain Dealer

99 W. Canal St.  
Wabash, Ind. 46992

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■ **Office Hours:**  
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Friday-Sunday:  
Hours vary

■ **Call:** 260-563-2131

■ **Email:** news@wabashplaindealer.com

(Please call in advance of your visit.)

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# Obituaries

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### Richard ‘Dick’ Brickley

Aug. 8, 1963 – April 21, 2020



Richard “Dick” Brickley, 56, of Muncie, IN, passed away at I.U. Ball Memorial Hospital, Muncie, IN, on Tuesday, April 21, 2020.

Richard was born in Bluffton, Aug. 8, 1963, to Richard E. and Judy Kay (Kahn) Brickley. He married Kelly J. Stephens in Greenville, OH, Aug. 4, 2017. She survives in Muncie, IN.

Richard graduated from Bluffton High School. He worked at REMC for 33 years, retiring in Aug. 2019 as a lineman. He attended Union Chapel Church in Muncie, IN, was a professional bowler, member of the Wabash County Men’s Bowling Association Hall of Fame Class of 2017, an avid Cub’s fan, a volunteer worker after Hurricane Katrina, enjoyed cooking, spending time with his grandchildren, and driving his Corvette.

Survivors include two daughters, Andrea (Eric) Kloer, and Alyssa (Jack) Richards, both of Huntington; two step-daughters, Stephanie (Luke) Hale of Lebanon, IN, and Stachia (Scott) Bennigs of Muncie, IN; three brothers, Rick (Debra) Brickley, Mick Brickley, both of Bluffton, and Tom (Stacey) Brickley of West Lafayette, IN; and six grandchildren.


Due to the restrictions from the Coronavirus Pandemic, a private family visitation will be held at Goodwin – Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Humane Society of the donor’s choice.

Goodwin – Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel has been entrusted with the funeral arrangements.

Online condolences may be made to [www.goodwincaleharnish.com](http://www.goodwincaleharnish.com).

### Doyt E. Grossman



Tom Grossman, of Portland, Tennessee; daughter, Joni Beeler, of Fort Wayne; one sister, Donabelle Moore, of Lafayette; eight grandchildren and two step-grandchildren.

Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m. on Monday, April 27, 2020 at LaFontaine IOOF Cemetery with Reverend Melissa Rice officiating.


Preferred memorials are to the Rolling Meadows Hospice Program.

Arrangements have been entrusted to McDonald Funeral Homes, LaFontaine Chapel, 104 S. Main St., LaFontaine, Indiana 46940.

We encourage you to give the family your love and support by visiting our website at [www.mcdonaldfunerals.com](http://www.mcdonaldfunerals.com). The family would appreciate your kind words, memories of Doyt and prayers for them.

### Candice Marie ‘Candy’ Olson

March 26, 1966 – April 22, 2020



Candice Marie “Candy” Olson, 54, of Wabash, Indiana, died at 3:08 p.m., Wednesday, April 22, 2020 at her home. She was born March 26, 1966 in Germany.

Candy was a graduate of North Miami High School. She married Barry J. Olson in Nashville, Indiana on Nov. 29, 2014. She was a child care provider for more than 25 years. Candy enjoyed taking care of and looking after children. She also enjoyed walking, jogging, and shopping at Kohls.

She is survived by her husband, Barry J. Olson of Wabash, two children, Tabbatha (Justin Turner) Miley of Wabash, and TJ (Katie) Miley of Walton, Indiana, four grandchildren, Ashtrid Burns, Averie Turner, and Adalynn Turner of Wabash, and Emerson Miley of Walton.

There will be a Celebration of Life Service at a later date. Arrangements by Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash.

Preferred memorial is Wabash County Cancer Society. The memorial guest book for Candy may be signed at [www.grandstaff-hentgen.com](http://www.grandstaff-hentgen.com).

## PENDING SERVICES

**Dwayne Sanders:** 78 of rural Wabash died at 2:20 a.m. Friday April 24, 2020 at Parkview Wabash Hospital. He is survived by his wife Joyce. Services are pending at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service Wabash.

**Jack W. Branson:** 69, of Wabash died at 7:06 p.m. Thursday April 23, 2020 at Parkview Regional Medical Center in Fort Wayne. He is survived by his wife Anna. Services are pending at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash.

# Trump: Postal Service must charge Amazon more, or no loan

By **MARTIN CRUTSINGER and DARLENE SUPERVILLE**  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump said Friday that he won’t approve a \$10 billion loan for the U.S. Postal Service unless the agency raises charges for Amazon and other big shippers to four to five times current rates.

“The Postal Service is a joke because they’re handing out packages for Amazon and other internet companies and every time they bring a package, they lose money on it,” Trump told reporters in the Oval Office.

The president was responding to a question about reports his administration plans to force major changes in postal operations as the price for approving a \$10 billion loan that was included in the government’s \$2 trillion economic rescue package.

Under the rescue package legislation, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin must approve the loan before the

Postal Service can receive the money. Officials at the Postal Service had no immediate reaction to Trump’s comments.

Trump said the changes the administration will insist on will make it a “whole new ballgame” at the Postal Service. He said the Postal Service did not want to make the changes because they did not want to offend Amazon and other companies.

Looking at Mnuchin, who was with him in the Oval Office, the president said, “If they don’t raise the price of the service they give ... I’m not signing anything and I’m not authorizing you to do anything.”

Mnuchin told reporters that he had Treasury officials working with the Postal Service on the terms of the loan if postal officials decide they need more money.

“We are going to post certain criteria for (a) postal reform program as part of the loan,” Mnuchin said. He said the Postal Service board is already conducting a search for a new postmaster general

to run the agency and undertaking reforms of operations. The Washington Post, which first reported the administration’s push for changes at the Postal Service, quoted unnamed officials as saying that senior Postal Service officials have been told the administration wants to use the \$10 billion loan as leverage to influence how much the agency charges for delivering packages and how it manages its finances.

Trump has complained for years that the Postal Service was being exploited by Amazon and other shippers and that was the reason the agency was losing so much money.

He tweeted later Friday, however, that we won’t let the Post Office fail.

“It has been mismanaged for years, especially since the advent of the internet and modern-day technology,” Trump said in a tweet. “The people that work there are great, and we’re going to keep them happy, healthy, and well!”



Participants decorated the passenger sides of their vehicles, themselves or whatever else before meeting in Miller’s Furniture parking lot.

## PARADE

From page A1

Vanderpool stated three fire trucks, one dump truck, a bicycle and over 50 cars decorated with signs were in

attendance.

“We called our parade ‘Mayor Long Appreciation Parade,’ The evening was fantastic,” she stated. “We have amazing citizens. Our only regret was that we couldn’t use social media to

publicize because we were trying to keep it a secret from the mayor. And yes, he was surprised.”

*Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at [rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com](mailto:rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com).*

## SCHOOL BUS

From page A1

reduce pollutants that are linked to health problems

such as asthma and lung damage.

Applicants replacing buses with engine model years 2006 and older will receive rebates between \$15,000 and

\$20,000 per bus, depending on the size of the bus.

*Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at [rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com](mailto:rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com).*

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Opinion

SPEAK UP

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http://young.senate.gov/contact

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419 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
202-225-3915

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Indiana Senate  
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Indianapolis, IN 46204  
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Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

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Indiana House  
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Indianapolis, IN 46204  
1-800-382-9841  
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To email any Indiana lawmaker, go to this website: [www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl](http://www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl)

LETTERS GUIDELINES

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 99 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to [news@wabashplainedeal.com](mailto:news@wabashplainedeal.com) with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.



DAILY SCRIPTURE

Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

Romans 12:10

Trump: Why waste a crisis?

When things aren't going smoothly for President Trump, his go-to move is to change the subject to topics that cheer his supporters and drive his critics into paroxysms of outrage. Mr. Trump's decision on Wednesday to, as he proclaimed on Twitter, sign an "Executive Order prohibiting immigration into our Country today" seems designed as just such a distraction.

The president first announced his intention in a late-night tweet on Monday, claiming it was a necessary response to "the attack from the Invisible Enemy" — his latest nickname for the coronavirus — and "to protect the jobs of our GREAT American citizens." Like clockwork, Democrats denounced his "xenophobia" and accused him of trying to shift the nation's focus away from his handling of the pandemic.

But the outcry is also behind the curve. In the name of protecting the nation, the Trump administration has already shut down most legal immigration through more piecemeal moves. In recent weeks, it has imposed tougher travel restrictions and has stopped processing most visas. Visa interviews are not taking place, nor are citizenship ceremonies. Migrants crossing the border are now turned back without the usual protections for minors and asylum seekers.

As Mr. Trump elaborated at his Tuesday news briefing, there will be a 60-day "pause" in issuing new green cards — though he said that could be extended "based on economic conditions." Responding in part to a backlash from business, the ban, for now at least, will not affect guest worker programs, including seasonal farm workers and individuals with H-1B visas.

To recap: The president is trumpeting a temporary ban on immigration to protect American jobs that exempts many employment-based programs.

While Mr. Trump's executive order is flashy, in policy terms, it is less an announcement of what he is going to do than what he has already done in realizing an

anti-immigration vision formed long before anyone had ever heard of Covid-19.

As for immigrants already here, on Tuesday, the Department of Education issued guidelines that will bar undocumented college students, including Dreamers, from receiving federal emergency aid for expenses, including food, housing and child care.

Choking off legal immigration is just one aspect of the administration's longstanding agenda that's being cast as a pandemic response. In the midst of the crisis, the administration has plowed ahead with non-Covid priorities that, in more normal times, most likely would have met with fierce pushback.

Environmental regulations have been a top target. In late March, the Environmental Protection Agency announced that, during this national emergency, power plants and factories would be allowed to self-monitor their pollution and would not be fined for violating certain reporting requirements. The administration also issued its new rule gutting vehicle fuel efficiency standards. In mid-April, the agency changed the way it calculates the benefits of regulating mercury, effectively weakening regulation of it and other toxic metals released by power plants. Most if not all of these moves are likely to be ensnared in lengthy, costly legal challenges.

Going forward, the administration is poised to use executive actions to roll back regulations on business, according to The Washington Post. Measures said to be under consideration include directing federal agencies not to enforce regulations on small businesses, as well as making permanent many of the regulatory waivers temporarily granted in response to the pandemic by agencies such as the Food and Drug Administration and the E.P.A.

Those who have stood in the way of Mr. Trump's preferred prescriptions for the pandemic have not fared well. This week, Dr. Rick Bright was bumped from his post atop the agency charged with

developing a coronavirus vaccine. Dr. Bright told The Times that he was dismissed for demanding that the emergency funding be invested in "safe and scientifically vetted solutions" rather than remedies "that lack scientific merit." He specifically cited his resistance to the "broad use" of chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine, which Mr. Trump was hawking as wonder drugs until the past few days, when additional research emerged spotlighting the medicines' lack of proven efficacy and potentially lethal risks in treating Covid-19 patients.

Mr. Trump is also eager to restore and expand tax cuts, always a popular move with his party. He has been pushing Congress to bring back the corporate meal and entertainment deduction. "It'll keep our restaurants going," he insisted at a briefing earlier this month. "In fact, I think the restaurant business will be actually bigger and better than it is right now."

Beyond policy, Mr. Trump is working to dismantle oversight of his administration. Immediately after signing the \$2 trillion relief bill, he issued a signing statement saying that he would be ignoring some of the oversight measures written into the bill. "These provisions are impermissible forms of congressional aggrandizement with respect to the execution of the laws," the statement said.

Less than two weeks later, the president ousted Glenn Fine, the acting inspector general for the Pentagon, who had been tasked with overseeing the administration's handling of the relief funding.

Mr. Fine is not the only administration watchdog Mr. Trump has put down. On April 3, he fired Michael Atkinson, the inspector general of the intelligence community, who alerted Congress to the existence of the whistle-blower complaint that ultimately led to Mr. Trump's impeachment.

Along with Mr. Atkinson's firing, the president announced "his intent to nominate" a handful of people to serve in inspector general positions

throughout government, indicating a more expansive makeover.

The White House has also taken advantage of a preoccupied nation to further its project of packing the judiciary with conservatives. On April 3, Mr. Trump tapped Judge Justin Walker for a seat on the influential United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. Mr. Walker is a 37-year-old protégé of Mitch McConnell, the Senate majority leader, and has been serving as a Federal District Court judge in Kentucky for around six months. The American Bar Association rated him "unqualified" for that post because of his inexperience. Mr. McConnell reiterated on Tuesday that the Senate will continue to confirm judicial nominees during the crisis.

There is nothing inherently wrong about Mr. Trump pursuing his agenda during this pandemic, or even using it to help make his case for action. On the other side of the aisle, Democrats are putting a coronavirus-spin on their priorities, from health care reform to paid family leave to an expansion of mail-in voting. As Rahm Emanuel, the former White House chief of staff, memorably opined during the 2009 financial meltdown, "Never allow a good crisis go to waste. It's an opportunity to do the things you once thought were impossible."

But this president has repeatedly demonstrated his eagerness to exploit any available opening, or to invent new ones when necessary, to expand his authority and advance his own interests. Recall his reallocating billions of dollars from the Pentagon's budget to build a wall across a tiny portion of the Southern border, for instance, under the guise of a national emergency last year. While presidential tweets and briefings are shiny objects to distract the news media and public, the Trump administration's lower-profile activity begs for even stricter scrutiny — especially in the midst of a global crisis.

*This editorial was first published in The New York Times.*

LETTERS

The state should increase safety by boosting voting by mail

Why is Secretary of State Connie Lawson ignoring the safety of Hoosier voters?

All Indianapolis voters are being mailed a Primary Election absentee ballot application.

How can Indianapolis, with all of its big-city troubles, find enough money to make sure that all of its voters can vote?

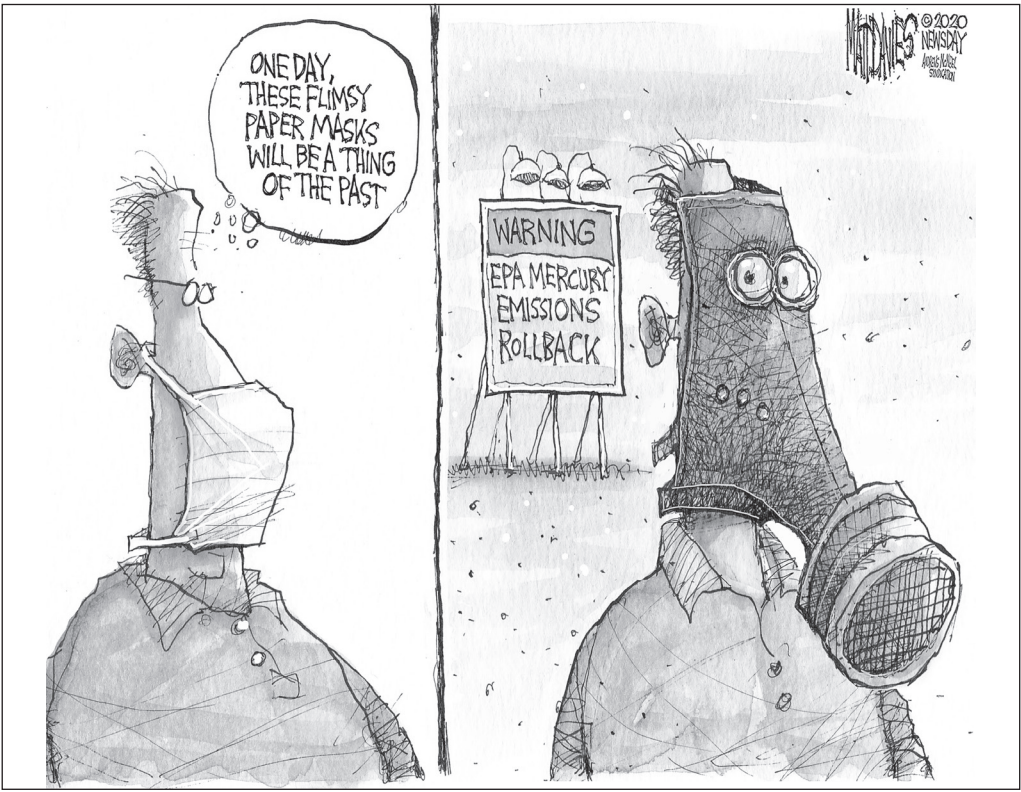
It's just not fair that all Hoosier voters throughout the State don't get the same treatment. Secretary Lawson is not acting like the leader we need. She is not standing up for us.

And where are our local leaders in all this? Perfectly quiet. This is unacceptable.

Voting in person won't be safe by the June 2 Primary Election. And it may not be safe by November. Voting by mail will keep us all safer.

We need to tell Secretary Lawson to do what's right. Get us all mail ballot applications. Let us vote.

Polly Spiegel  
Indiana Vote by Mail  
Indianapolis



A whisper of sanity?

As spring smothers us in shutdown-clear skies of azure, I've wondered how anything could be wrong in the world. How could a deadly disease, its origins traceable to a hideous, winged beast, survive among the sun-splashed and bird-heralded passage of rebirth and abundance?

Kathleen Parker



This same thought has plagued me during times of war. How do men decide on a perfect morn or moon-lit night to hustle themselves into battle, killing and maiming their fellow man, as well as their own souls?

Inconceivable. It is also breathlessly ironic that the world's superpowers are closing in on a ceasefire, not because springtime demands it — or because war is senseless — but because the pandemic is damaging enough without our additional help. COVID-19 is on a global killing spree, pitting us together against a virus rather than against one another. Who would have guessed that all we needed to end international hostilities was a killer bug and an order to shelter inside our huts, there to meditate on life and death.

Ceasefire from what, you ask? From armed conflict, though that would be largely symbolic, as the likely signatories aren't, strictly speaking, even at war. Think of the "ceasefire" as more of a symbolic move, the first part of a more unified global campaign against the virus. The broad terms have been agreed to by France, the U.S., the United Kingdom and China while the bigger fight against COVID-19 continues. A spokesman for Vladimir Putin has said Russia "most likely" will sign on, too.

The U.N. Secretary-General for weeks has been calling on leaders to support a global cessation of hostilities so the world can focus on the pandemic. Perhaps there's hope that other nations — and in some cases, proxies — would follow the Security Council's lead. If it's only a symbolic gesture, it's a good one.

This rare moment of reason is based upon the idea that all nations need to work together to fight the global pandemic. Even the least rational among us, the Islamic State, has ordered its fighters to avoid Europe during the pandemic. Jihadists apparently don't want to get sick and die, either, despite heaven's promised rewards.

The parameters of a ceasefire pose interesting questions. Would it mean

that adversaries also pause their war of words? President Trump and Chinese premier Xi Jinping have been engaged in a blame game that is unhelpful to the cause of defeating COVID-19. Not that there isn't blame to go around; China tried to cover up the cause and severity of its outbreak and death rates when honesty might have altered the trajectory and scope of the disease beyond China's borders.

Trump has cut off funding to the World Health Organization for its alleged collusion with China. The WHO became an unreliable source when it echoed Chinese propaganda. In turn, China has seeded a conspiracy theory that the U.S. military planted the virus in Wuhan. This sort of exchange may be less dramatic than bombs-bursting-in-air, but the ultimate effects may prove just as deadly.

As I've previously written, there will be plenty of time for assigning blame after the bodies are counted. For now, the world's focus needs to be on stopping the virus's spread and developing a vaccine. This can only be done by joining forces, sharing resources, and setting aside differences that the virus doesn't recognize.

When the leaders of the G7 nations met virtually on Thursday to discuss the pandemic, they might

have also considered that a ceasefire that makes sense in a time of pandemic might always make sense. Our common foe is death, after all, and war brings only more of it. When Donald Trump recently tried to pick a fight with New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, the latter told a story at his daily briefing on Tuesday about when, as a boy, he tried to understand a poster at his Catholic school. The poster read: Suppose they gave a war and nobody came.

Cuomo said a priest explained the slogan's meaning, a message he has carried with him since. Speaking to Trump's challenge, Cuomo said, "Sometimes it's better to walk away from a fight than engage it."

This is no time for my inner-Pollyanna to start clearing her throat, but it is conceivable that the human race might come away from this nightmare with a greater appreciation for the fragility of life and the gift of peace. Obviously, we have to fight to defend ourselves, but if we can be allies with our enemies today, why not partners tomorrow?

The pandemic has taught us, as nothing else has, this singular lesson: We are one world. And, spring, if it hasn't found you yet, is just around the corner. Rejoice while we can.

Kathleen Parker's email address is [kathleenparker@washpost.com](mailto:kathleenparker@washpost.com).

# Moving near family forces a choice between two sons

**DEAR ABBY:** My wife and I have a dilemma my we don't know how to handle. We both recently retired. Our sons (both married with children) live in other states. Since my wife and I no longer have family here, we are going to move close to one of our sons. Our dilemma: They both want us to move near them, but they are 2,000 miles apart.

**Dear Abby**



Both of the states they live in are similar in terms of taxes, home prices, cost of living, etc. We have decided where we would like to go and found a home to purchase. How do we tell our other son why we moved where we did? He's going to be very hurt and feel that we favor his brother, which couldn't be further from the truth. Both are financially stable (as are my wife and I), so that is not an issue.

I'm sure many people would feel blessed to have two sons who both want their parents close by. How do we tell one we picked the other? —Nearby In California

**DEAR NEARBY:** Do not tell either brother that you picked the one you did. You chose a LOCATION.

Why did you arrive at the decision you did? Make a list of the reasons you made your choice and recite them when you are asked. You are all adults. Your reasons are valid ones, and this should not be couched in terms of one son being loved better than the other, which is childish.

**DEAR ABBY:** Seven years ago, I found out my husband hadn't paid our mortgage and credit card bills for more than two years, and our home of 23 years was in preforeclosure. Once the secret was out, we managed to save the house (thankfully).

Problem is, I no longer trust my husband and often doubt what he says. My priority was to save our home, but now I am no longer sure I want to stay with him. Our 40th anniversary is this year, but I feel bitter and resentful about his irresponsible decisions. I want to leave, but I'm scared I am making the wrong decision. Help, please. — Mixed Up In Massachusetts

**DEAR MIXED UP:** Because I have no idea why your husband behaved so irresponsibly, you need to hash this out with a licensed marriage and family therapist. You should also consult an attorney. IF you decide to stay, it is imperative that you be in a position to closely monitor any financial actions and obligations in your household.

**DEAR ABBY:** I like to jump on our neighbors' trampoline when they're out of town. I have been doing it for decades. Normally it's no big deal, but last weekend they returned home earlier than usual and caught me in the act. Now my wife is ashamed to show her face around the neighborhood, and she's blaming me for the whole thing.

Abby, I have a simple solution to this mess. If the neighbors don't want me jumping on their trampoline, they should cough up the money for a privacy fence. Don't you agree? — Bouncing Into Trouble

**DEAR BOUNCING:** If you are so jumpy and can't keep your feet on the ground, it may be time to buy your own trampoline, which would save your wife a world of embarrassment.

Your comment about the neighbors building a fence may have been offered in jest, but it is sensible. If someone's child were to play on that trampoline in their absence and be injured, your neighbor could wind up paying a lot more than the cost of a fence.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

## CROSSWORD

### ACROSS

- 1 Down Under rockers
- 5 Oaxaca article
- 8 — au lait
- 12 Oliver Twist's request
- 13 New pet, maybe
- 14 Refrigerator stick
- 15 Lumber along
- 16 Headstrong
- 18 Gem
- 20 Quid — quo
- 21 Naval off.
- 22 Circular room
- 25 Do some tape editing
- 28 Baseball clubs
- 29 Sarcastic remark
- 33 Made amends
- 35 Wednesday's god
- 36 Disconcert
- 37 Wisely

- 39 Norse hammer wielder
- 40 Barge
- 42 Jellyfish abode
- 43 Against
- 46 Approves
- 49 Big —
- 50 Minority group
- 53 Hiker's bag
- 56 Ukraine's capital
- 58 Diva — Ponselle
- 59 Reproach oneself for
- 60 Marshal Wyatt —
- 61 Help a thief
- 62 Baja "Mrs."
- 63 Dads, to granddads

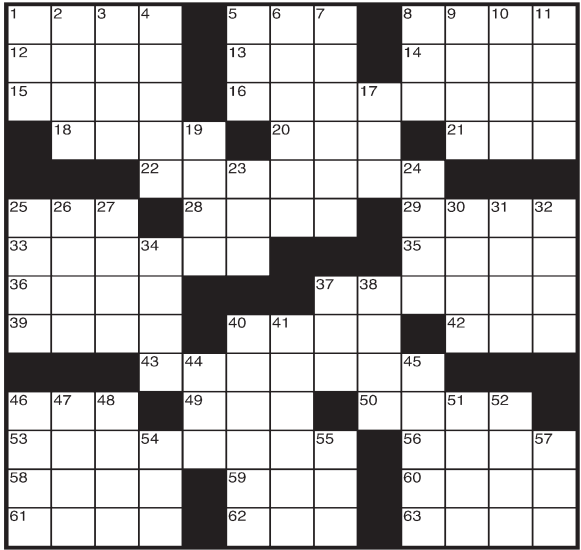
### DOWN

- 1 Fuse word
- 2 Boulder's st.
- 3 Globule
- 4 It repels moths
- 5 DJ's platters
- 6 Production
- 7 Rebuffs
- 8 Stocky horse

### Answer to Previous Puzzle

HAUL GRIP ACE  
ERMA RODE PAD  
RAPT OMAR ETE  
OBSERVE MASON  
LIE JIB  
EMMYS POTENT  
ROO KAYS DEAF  
SNOW PREP ERA  
AROUSE INDEX  
RTE NEO  
KEANU CORDIAL  
ALI REAM DONA  
RIM NAPA ETON  
LAS SUED DANE

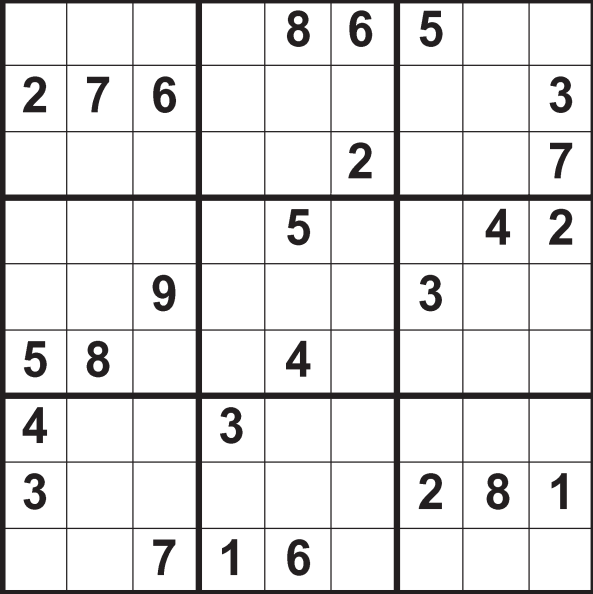
- 9 Soothing herb
- 10 Plant with fronds
- 11 Zillions of years
- 17 Physique
- 19 Ear part
- 23 Just a little
- 24 In a dither
- 25 Dotty
- 26 Salt Lake state
- 27 Early TV clown
- 30 Time to beware
- 31 Peevishness
- 32 New Age singer
- 34 Fiddling despot
- 37 Coast Guard alert
- 38 Astonishes
- 40 Javelins
- 41 Agree
- 44 "Mystery!" channel
- 45 Fakes out, on the rink
- 46 Pods for stews
- 47 TV control
- 48 Business encl.
- 51 Hi or bye
- 52 Gull relative
- 54 Greet a dog
- 55 Big green parrot
- 57 Corp. execs



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## SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★



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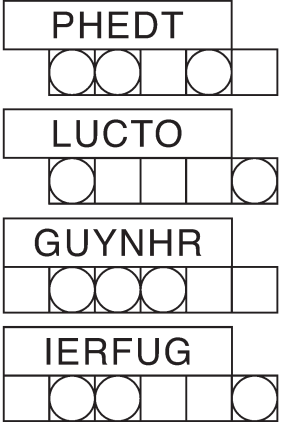
How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

### PREVIOUS SOLUTION

8	7	1	5	6	4	2	9	3
9	5	3	8	2	7	6	1	4
2	4	6	3	1	9	8	7	5
5	2	4	9	8	3	1	6	7
7	3	8	1	5	6	9	4	2
1	6	9	7	4	2	5	3	8
6	9	2	4	3	8	7	5	1
4	8	5	6	7	1	3	2	9
3	1	7	2	9	5	4	8	6

## JUMBLE

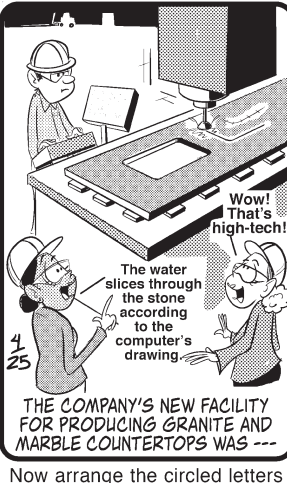
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



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### THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Yesterday's Jumbles: HUTCH HOIST GLADLY FIBBER  
Answer: She opened the book about trees so she could — LEAF THROUGH IT

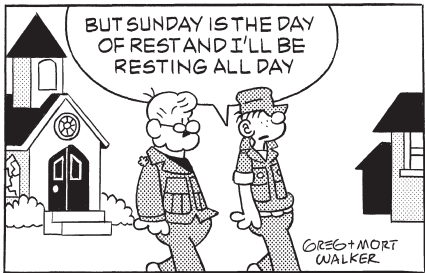
## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

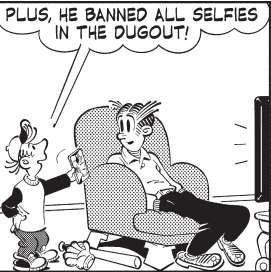


"Mommy, will you fix the color on this toaster?"

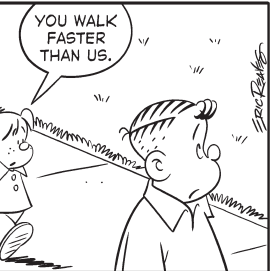
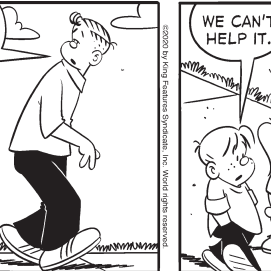
## BEETLE BAILEY



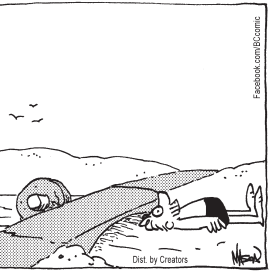
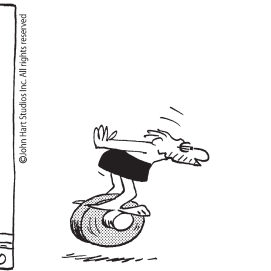
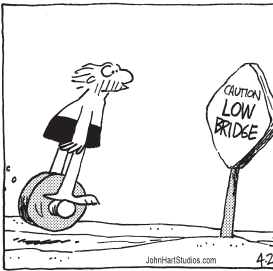
## BLONDIE



## HI & LOIS



## BC



## WIZARD OF ID



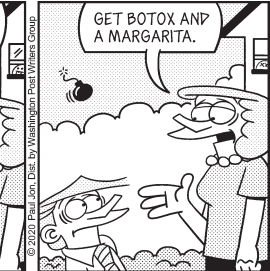
## DILBERT



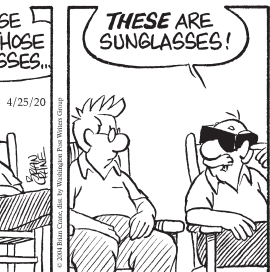
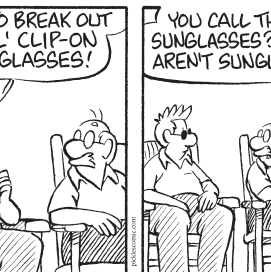
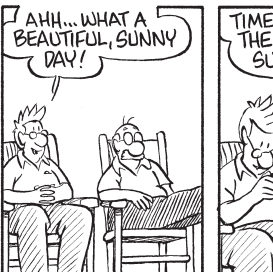
## GARFIELD



## FORT KNOX



## PICKLES



# God, the Creator and Sustainer of life

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

**Q:** Where in the Bible does it say that abortion is wrong, even murder? — A.D.

**A:** Abortion has divided our nation like no other issue in recent times. The Bible places the highest value on human life. It is sacred and of inestimable worth to God, who created it "in His own image." The Bible recognizes the unborn as being fully human.

The Bible says, "For You formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother's womb. I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; wonderful are Your works.... My frame was not hidden from You, when I was made in secret" (Psalm 139:13-15, NASB).

We must never think that we can solve one moral crisis by

condoning another, especially the crime of murder, for unrestrained abortion is nothing less than that. We have an obligation to show others what God says about living self-controlled lives and being responsible for our moral actions, as God defines them.

God is the Creator of life and the Sustainer of life. He has given the "seed" of life and breath of life, and our responsibility is to protect these sacred gifts given by the Father in Heaven. This is why the hot button of abortion reaches the height of holocaust. Man has

no right to steal from God or destroy the giving of life that belongs to Him.

In God's great love, He gives life that bears the image of God. The issue of abortion is not whether people have the right to terminate the life of a child; the real issue is whether or not people will insist on running their own lives according to worldly standards that oppose God's law. Contentment comes when people surrender to God and allow Him to guide their lives according to His loving righteousness.

## CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"CWXP OBLBPW VWJWPXLNTJH:  
ERWXHW XKKWEL TBP XETRTVNW.  
FW FWPW PTRRNJV CPBJG TJ  
EWLPTRWBY." — GBPL ATJJWVBL

Previous Solution: "Here we are, the most clever species ever to have lived. So how is it we can destroy the only planet we have?" — Jane Goodall

TODAY'S CLUE: C equals K



**PULSE**

From page A1

alumni/campus-pantry  
-donation-form.

**Closings announced  
due to COVID-19  
concerns**

■ Access Youth Center: All scheduled after school and weekend programming is canceled until further notice.

■ BMV: Closed until further notice. The phone number is 888-692-6841 and the lines are open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays. For more information, visit <https://www.in.gov/bmv/4363.htm>.

■ Community Foundation of Wabash County: Individuals with questions may email [patty@cfwabash.org](mailto:patty@cfwabash.org) or [julie@cfwabash.org](mailto:julie@cfwabash.org), or call 260-982-4824.

■ Division of Family Resources: Offices closed until further notice. Visit the FSSA benefits portal at [www.fssabenefits.in.gov](http://www.fssabenefits.in.gov). DFR staff is available by phone at 800-403-0864 to provide customer service from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Clients may also continue to send documents to DFR via mail at P.O. Box 1810, Marion, IN 46952.

■ Farm Service Agency: County offices are open in Indiana by phone appointment only until further notice, and staff is available to continue helping agricultural producers with program signups, loan servicing and other important actions. Call 260-563-7486.

■ Honeywell Foundation: All events at foundation properties including the Honeywell Center, Honeywell House, Eagles Theatre, Dr. James Ford Historic Home and Charley Creek Gardens are suspended until further notice.

■ Living Well in Wabash County: The Community Cupboard pantry will operate as a drive-through with regular pantry hours, which are from 3 to 5 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays; closed Wednesdays; and open from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays. Senior lunches at Winchester Senior Center will be operated as a drive-through at the front door of the senior center from 11 to 11:30 a.m. Monday through Friday. Lunch reservations continue to require 48 business hours of reservations. Seniors age 60 and older wanting a lunch must call Winchester Senior Center at 260-563-4475.

■ Manchester Community Schools: Closed through the rest of the school year.

■ Manchester University: Remote teaching for students will last through the end of the semester. Residence halls will close for the remainder of the semester. All campus activities for the remainder of the semester have been canceled or postponed.

■ MSD: Closed through the rest of the school year.

■ The North Manchester Center for History: Temporarily closed to the public. The Crossroads: Change in Rural America exhibit is available through video on the NHCH Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/NorthManchesterHistory](http://www.facebook.com/NorthManchesterHistory).

■ North Manchester Public Library: Closed until further notice. Except for hotspots, no materials will be due during the closure. All online events will stream on the NMPL Facebook at [www.facebook.com/NorthManchesterPublicLibrary/](http://www.facebook.com/NorthManchesterPublicLibrary/) and will then be archived on the Online Programming Archive. For more information, email [nmpl@nman.lib.in.us](mailto:nmpl@nman.lib.in.us), call 260-982-4773 or visit [www.nman.lib.in.us](http://www.nman.lib.in.us).

■ St. Bernard School: Closed through the rest of the school year.

■ Wabash Carnegie Public Library: Closed until further notice. Overdue fines for all times except Wi-Fi hotspots waived until further notice. For more information, email [warew@wabash.lib.in.us](mailto:warew@wabash.lib.in.us) or visit [www.wabash.lib.in.us](http://www.wabash.lib.in.us) or [www.facebook.com/WabashCarnegieLibrary](http://www.facebook.com/WabashCarnegieLibrary).

■ Wabash City Hall: Closed through at least 8 a.m. Monday, May 4. All public meetings postponed. Citizens should visit [www.cityofwabash.com](http://www.cityofwabash.com) to pay bills for wastewater, ambulance billing and building department permits. City court offers pay by phone services. Phone calls to the main Wabash City Hall number at 260-563-4171 will be answered by voicemail. Questions regarding COVID-19 can also be directed to the new email address at [covid19info@cityofwabash.com](mailto:covid19info@cityofwabash.com). Anyone with questions should call 260-274-

1485 or email [mayor@cityofwabash.com](mailto:mayor@cityofwabash.com).

■ Wabash City Schools: Closed through the rest of the school year. Current e-learning days include Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

■ Wabash Circuit and Superior Courts and Court Services (Probation and Community Corrections divisions): Closed to the public Wednesdays and Fridays through April 30.

■ Wabash County Courthouse and Wabash County Health Department: Closed to the public except by appointment. Payments and other documents for these offices may be placed in a large locked box located just inside the west basement door of the courthouse. For more information, visit [www.wabashcounty.in.gov](http://www.wabashcounty.in.gov) or call the Courthouse at 260-563-0661 ext. 1222.

■ Wabash County Judicial Center: Closed to the public through April 30. A drop box is located outside, near the top of the stairs, for depositing payments and documents. The Wabash County Elections office may be reached at 260-563-0661 ext. 1238, Wabash County Circuit Court at 260-563-0661 ext. 1241, Wabash County Superior Court at 260-563-0661 ext. 1254, Wabash County Court Services at 260-563-8466 ext. 1276, Judicial Annex Court Security: 260-563-0661 ext. 1261 and Wabash County Clerk of the Courts: 260-563-0661 ext. 1239.

■ Wabash County Museum: Temporarily closed until further notice.

■ Wabash County Solid Waste Management District: Offices and warehouse closed to the public until further notice. 24/7 drop sites at 1101 Manchester Ave. and at the Hardware in North Manchester will remain open for regular recycling. For more information, call 260-563-7649.

■ Woman's Clubhouse: Closed through at least May 8.

■ WorkOne: Closed until further notice. Contact staff by phone at the Wabash location at 260-563-8421.

■ Winchester Senior Center: All daily activities suspended until further notice.

**New dates,  
postponements,  
cancellations set for  
Honeywell Center,  
Eagles Theatre events**

■ Honeywell Center: Hairball rescheduled for Friday, Sept. 18. Big Bad Voodoo Daddy will be rescheduled but does not yet have a set date. "Finding Neverland" has been canceled and ticket holders will receive an email with information regarding their refund.

■ Honeywell House: Cabaret!!!, Dinner Chamber Series "Opus Two," Conversations on Renovation and Eagles Theatre Ballroom Dances into the Future will be rescheduled, but does not yet have a set date.

■ Eagles Theatre: Top of the Charts rescheduled for Thursday, June 18. Tribute to John Denver rescheduled for Thursday, July 23. Buckets N Boards will be rescheduled but does not yet have a set date.

**Red Cross schedules  
blood donation  
opportunity  
for May 13**

The Red Cross has scheduled a blood donation opportunity from 1 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 13 at Richvalley Community Center, 56 W. Mill St.

**Farmers market  
season set to  
begin May 16**

The Downtown Wabash Farmers Market opens from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 16 in the Honeywell Center/Wabash Elk's Parking Lot. The market occurs every Saturday through Sept. 26. If you are interested in becoming a vendor or volunteering at the event, call 260-563-0975 or visit [www.wabashmarketplace.org](http://www.wabashmarketplace.org).

**Red Cross schedules  
blood donation  
opportunity  
for May 19**

The Red Cross has scheduled a blood donation opportunity from noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 19 at First United Methodist Church, 110 N. Cass St.

**Mural festival  
seeks local artists**

Make It Your Own Mural Fest, organized by the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership

and Arts United of Greater Fort Wayne, is asking artists to apply for the Artist and Mentorship Programs as part of the 11-day mural festival scheduled for Sept. 8 to 18. Make It Your Own Mural Fest is also searching for volunteers for the Mentorship Program. Applications are available at [www.NElmuralfestival.com](http://www.NElmuralfestival.com) and are open through the end of May.

**Red Cross schedules  
blood donation  
opportunity for June 2**

The Red Cross has scheduled a blood donation opportunity from 2 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 2 at the Wabash County YMCA, 500 S. Cass St.

**Wabash Kiwanis  
Club Pancake Day  
officially rescheduled**

The Wabash Kiwanis Club's annual Pancake Day has been rescheduled from March 14 to Saturday, June 6 at the Bruce Ingraham building at the Wabash County Fairgrounds. The event's Pancake Eating Contest will take place at noon. Pancakes, with or without blueberries, will be available, along with sausages and refreshments. Tickets will be \$8 at the door and \$7 in advance for adults 13 and older and \$5 at the door and \$4 in advance for children ages 6 to 12. Admission for the event will be free for children 5 and younger. Sponsorship opportunities for businesses are available by emailing Kiwanian Donna Siders at [donnasiders@hotmail.com](mailto:donnasiders@hotmail.com) or calling 260-571-1892. For more information, email [keaffaberm@msdwc.k12.in.us](mailto:keaffaberm@msdwc.k12.in.us).

**Red Cross schedules  
blood donation  
opportunity for June 6**

The Red Cross has scheduled a blood donation opportunity from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 6 at Scotty's Bar, 780

Manchester Ave.

**Dia De Lagro  
rescheduled due to  
COVID-19 concerns**

Dia De Lagro, which was originally set for Tuesday, May 5, has been rescheduled to 5:30 p.m. Saturday, June 13 at Eads Barn, 4725 E. 200 North, Urbana. Comedian and Wabash County celebrity, Michael Palascak, is set to bring laughter to Lagro as the headliner of the event, which will benefit the revitalization of downtown Lagro. Appetizers, cocktails, singer Kimberly Rutledge and Emcee Reed Christiansen are set to begin at 5:30 p.m. A Mexican-themed dinner, catered by Gallery 64, will begin at 6 p.m. with Palascak taking the stage at 7 p.m. Tickets for the event are \$75 each, \$125 per couple or \$500 for a table of eight. For more information, visit [lagrocanalfoundation.com](http://lagrocanalfoundation.com). Those interested in donating prizes for the silent auction or would like to become a main sponsor may email [lagrocanalfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:lagrocanalfoundation@gmail.com). For more information, email [aeads4725@gmail.com](mailto:aeads4725@gmail.com) or call 260-571-2428.

**Registration for  
annual Dam to Dam  
Century Ride and new  
triathlon now open**

Visit Wabash County has announced registration for the Dam to Dam Century Ride and the DAM(N)IMAN! triathlon is now open. D!M! will take place on the same day as the Dam to Dam Century Ride – Sunday, Sept. 13 – and will incorporate the newest and longest 150-mile bike route, plus a 3.1-mile swim and will end with a 31-mile run. The early bird registration fee for the bike ride is \$40 through May 31, however, attendees can use promo code D2DSAVE10 to save \$10 for a limited time. The price increas-

es to \$50 beginning June 1. The registration fee for the triathlon is \$135, however, participants can use promo code DMSAVE40 to save \$40 for a limited time. For more information, visit [www.visitwabashcounty.com/adventure-series](http://www.visitwabashcounty.com/adventure-series) or call 260-563-7171.

**Manchester U. moves  
2020 Commencement  
to fall**

The dates for ceremonies at the North Manchester campus are: Saturday, Oct. 17, Pharmacy Hooding ceremony and Graduate and Professional Commencement (Doctorate in Pharmacy, Master of Athletic Training and Master of Pharmacogenomics) Cordier Auditorium; and Sunday, Oct. 18, Undergraduate and Master of Accountancy Commencement. Physical Education and Recreation Center (PERC).

**Indiana 105  
bridge at Salamonie  
Lake closed**

Salamonie Lost Bridge West and East state recreation areas are accessible only from the south. To access Indiana 105 on the north side of the bridge, from the south of the bridge heading north on Indiana 105, the official detour will be Indiana 124 to Indiana 9 to Highway 24. The entire bridge deck will be removed and replaced. The bridge, and road, is scheduled to re-open Sunday, Nov. 15.

*Editor's note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to [news@wabashplaindealer.com](mailto:news@wabashplaindealer.com) no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.*

**Indiana  
freezes  
much state  
hiring with  
virus tax hit**

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Indiana's state government has imposed a widespread hiring freeze and other limits on spending as officials brace for a major financial hit from the coronavirus crisis.

A memo issued this week by the State Budget Agency directs department leaders to take action for reducing expenses, along with no vehicle or furniture purchases.

No state employees have yet been laid off yet, but officials will be looking closely before filling any vacancies, said Christopher Johnston, director of the state's Office of Management and Budget.

"Obviously, there are agencies that are on the front lines with fighting the virus so we will take particular care in looking at their staffing needs," said Johnston, who is Gov. Eric Holcomb's top fiscal adviser.

Through February, state revenues were about \$100 million better than estimates for the first eight months of the current fiscal year, but came in 6 percent, or about \$70 million, below projections in March. Officials expect a major tax revenue decline for April but haven't yet given estimates.

"Anticipating what is coming with the downturn in the economy, all the measures in that memo are things that I think have to be considered and are on the table," Johnston said.



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# Mask-making movement

Local volunteers sew, deliver hundreds of fabric masks for health care workers, seniors, more

By **ROB BURGESS**  
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

What started almost a month ago as an urgent request is now a full-on movement as local individuals and groups have answered the call to sew fabric masks for health care workers, seniors and more.

### How it all began

Late last month, as the COVID-19 was becoming more of a reality each day, Grow Wabash County asked “any of our investors, businesses or individuals that have new, unused dust or N95 masks that they are willing to donate” to bring them to Parkview Wabash Hospital.

Mayor Scott Long approached Rick and Jennifer VanHoose-Simson, owners of Rick’s Auto, to see if they had any masks. They didn’t. But, later that same evening, Jennifer’s sister-in-law Shelly VanHoose, a nurse, sent a group text asking who could sew.

From there, Jennifer co-founded the Facebook group, Wabash Strong, after a post about the need went viral. Word spread fast. In the first 12 hours, there were over 160 members. As of Thursday, the group had nearly 1,200 members.

### Beyond the hospital

Jennifer stated they soon were inundated with requests reaching far beyond the hospital. They soon found themselves dropping off masks at places like nursing homes, medical facilities and individual physicians. The group donated 64 masks to Autumn Ridge Rehabilitation Centre.

In response to a Plain Dealer request earlier this month, Beverly Ferry, CEO of Living Well in Wabash County, stated the Wabash Strong group created and delivered 100 masks, specifically for the senior citizens who rely on them for transit to places like the doctor’s office and grocery store. Ferry stated they had received additional donations



Provided photos

**RIGHT:** One of the 100 fabric masks sewn by members of the Wabash Strong group and delivered to Living Well in Wabash County is shown here in action. **ABOVE:** So far, the group had constructed 1,576 masks in total.

from others, as well.

“Two other women made and donated two dozen each,” she stated. “Another woman donated 10, and on and on.”

### Need from health care workers continues

Now that the group has been working tirelessly together to fulfill the immediate needs of health care workers and others for a few weeks now, many of the initial requests have been handled.

Earlier this week, Jennifer stated she is back at work

now, and that she has handed the distribution over to Cindy Miller Solloway, Wabash Strong’s co-administrator.

In response to a Plain Dealer request Tuesday, Solloway stated they were “just about caught up” with the orders they’ve received.

Jennifer stated Ecolab in Huntington just picked up 110 masks made by the group.

But, now even larger orders from medical facilities are on the horizon.

Solloway stated they were now helping make masks for Midwest Eye Consultants, which needs 2,000 masks



for their entire district. She stated Midwest Eye Consultants was supplying all of the material needed for the members of the group to make the masks.

Solloway stated so far, the group had constructed 1,576 masks in total. But, she stated, that doesn’t even cover them all. That’s just counting the ones that have

been dropped off to one of the group’s designated locations.

“There have been members of our group that have delivered the masks to nursing facilities themselves,” she stated.

*Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at [rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com](mailto:rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com).*




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**Thank you for taking care of those that need it most.**